

BENEFIT PLAN

**Prepared Exclusively for
East Ohio Conference of the United
Methodist Church**

PPO Dental

**What Your Plan
Covers and How
Benefits are Paid**



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* Defines the Terms Shown in Bold Type in the Text of This Document.

Preface

Aetna Life Insurance Company (referred to as **Aetna**) is pleased to provide you with this *Booklet*. Read this *Booklet* carefully. The plan described in this *Booklet* is a benefit plan of the Employer. These benefits are not insured with **Aetna** but will be paid from the Employer's funds. **Aetna** will provide certain administrative services under the plan as outlined in the Administrative Services Agreement between **Aetna** and the Customer.

This *Booklet* is part of the *Contract* between Aetna and the Customer. The *Contract* determines the terms and conditions of coverage. **Aetna** agrees with the Customer to provide coverage in accordance with the conditions, rights, and privileges as set forth in this *Booklet*. The Customer selects the products and benefit levels under the plan. A person covered under this plan and their covered dependents are subject to all the conditions and provisions of the *Contract*.

The *Booklet* describes the rights and obligations of you and **Aetna**, what the plan covers and how benefits are paid for that coverage. It is your responsibility to understand the terms and conditions in this *Booklet*. Your *Booklet* includes the *Schedule of Benefits* and any amendments or riders.

If you become covered, this *Booklet* replaces and supercedes all *Booklets* describing similar coverage that **Aetna** previously issued to you.

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Ronald A. Williams
Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President

Coverage for You and Your Dependents

Health Expense Coverage

Benefits are payable for covered health care expenses that are incurred by you or your covered dependents while coverage is in effect. An expense is "incurred" on the day you receive a health care service or supply.

Coverage under this plan is non-occupational. Only **non-occupational injuries** and **non-occupational illnesses** are covered.

Refer to the *What the Plan Covers* section of the *Booklet* for more information about your coverage.

Treatment Outcomes of Covered Services

Aetna is not a provider of health care services and therefore is not responsible for and does not guarantee any results or outcomes of the covered health care services and supplies you receive. Except for Aetna RX Home Delivery LLC, providers of health care services, including hospitals, institutions, facilities or agencies, are independent contractors and are neither agents nor employees of **Aetna** or its affiliates.

When Your Coverage Begins

Who Can Be Covered

How and When to Enroll

When Your Coverage Begins

Throughout this section you will find information on who can be covered under the plan, how to enroll and what to do when there is a change in your life that affects coverage. In this section, “you” means the employee.

Who Can Be Covered

Employees

To be covered by this plan, the following requirements must be met:

- You will need to be in an “eligible class,” as defined below; and
- You will need to meet the “eligibility date criteria” described below.

Eligible Classes

You are in an eligible class if:

- You are a retired employee of an employer participating in this plan, and you:
 - Retired before the effective date of this plan and were covered under the prior plan for health care coverage on the day before you retired; or
 - Were covered under this plan or another plan sponsored by your employer on the day before you retired; and
 - Retire under your employer’s IRS-qualified retirement plan.

Determining When You Become Eligible

You become eligible for the plan on your eligibility date, which is determined as follows.

On the Effective Date of the Plan

If you are in an eligible class on the effective date of your plan, your eligibility date is the effective date of the plan.

After the Effective Date of the Plan

If you are in an eligible class on the date of retirement, your eligibility date is the date you retire.

If you enter an eligible class after your date of retirement, your eligibility date is the date you enter the eligible class.

Obtaining Coverage for Dependents

Your dependents can be covered under your plan. You may enroll the following dependents:

- Your legal spouse; and
- Your dependent children.

Aetna will rely upon your employer to determine whether or not a person meets the definition of a dependent for coverage under the plan. This determination will be conclusive and binding upon all persons for the purposes of this plan.

Coverage for Dependent Children

To be eligible, a dependent child must be:

- Unmarried; and
- Under 23 years of age

An eligible dependent child includes:

- Your biological children;
- Your stepchildren;
- Your legally adopted children;
- Your foster children, including any children placed with you for adoption;
- Any children for whom you are responsible under court order;
- Your grandchildren in your court-ordered custody; and
- Any other child who lives with you in a parent-child relationship.

Coverage for a handicapped child may be continued past the age limits shown above. See *Handicapped Dependent Children* for more information.

Important Reminder

Keep in mind that you cannot receive coverage under the plan as:

- Both an employee and a dependent; or
- A dependent of more than one employee.

How and When to Enroll

Initial Enrollment in the Plan

You will be provided with plan benefit and enrollment information when you first become eligible to enroll. You will need to enroll in a manner determined by **Aetna** and your employer. To complete the enrollment process, you will need to provide all requested information for yourself and your eligible dependents.

You will need to enroll within 31 days of your eligibility date.

When Your Coverage Begins

Your Effective Date of Coverage

Your coverage takes effect on:

- The date you are eligible for coverage

Your Dependent's Effective Date of Coverage

Your dependent's coverage takes effect on the same day that your coverage becomes effective, if you have enrolled them in the plan.

Requirements For Coverage

To be covered by the plan, services and supplies must meet all of the following requirements:

1. The service or supply must be covered by the plan. For a service or supply to be covered, it must:
 - Be included as a covered expense in this Booklet;
 - Not be an excluded expense under this Booklet. Refer to the *Exclusions* sections of this Booklet for a list of services and supplies that are excluded;
 - Not exceed the maximums and limitations outlined in this Booklet. Refer to the *What the Plan Covers* section and the *Schedule of Benefits* for information about certain expense limits; and
 - Be obtained in accordance with all the terms, policies and procedures outlined in this Booklet.
2. The service or supply must be provided while coverage is in effect. See the *Who Can Be Covered, How and When to Enroll, When Your Coverage Begins, When Coverage Ends* and *Continuation of Coverage* sections for details on when coverage begins and ends.
3. The service or supply must be **medically necessary**. To meet this requirement, the dental services, supply must be provided by a **physician**, or other health care provider or **dental provider**, exercising prudent clinical judgment, to a patient for the purpose of preventing, evaluating, diagnosing or treating an **illness, injury**, disease or its symptoms. The provision of the service or supply must be:
 - (a) In accordance with generally accepted standards of dental practice;
 - (b) Clinically appropriate, in terms of type, frequency, extent, site and duration, and considered effective for the patient's **illness, injury** or disease; and
 - (c) Not primarily for the convenience of the patient, **physician** or **dental provider** or other health care provider;
 - (d) And not more costly than an alternative service or sequence of services at least as likely to produce equivalent therapeutic or diagnostic results as to the diagnosis or treatment of that patient's **illness, injury**, or disease.

For these purposes “generally accepted standards of dental practice” means standards that are based on credible scientific evidence published in peer-reviewed dental literature generally recognized by the relevant dental community, or otherwise consistent with **physician** or dental specialty society recommendations and the views of **physicians** or **dentists** practicing in relevant clinical areas and any other relevant factors.

Important Note

- Not every service, supply that fits the definition for **medical necessity** is covered by the plan. Exclusions and limitations apply to certain dental services, supplies and expenses. For example some benefits are limited to a certain number of days, visits or a dollar maximum. Refer to the *What the Plan Covers* section and the *Schedule of Benefits* for the plan limits and maximums.

How Your Aetna Dental Plan Works

Common Terms

What the Plan Covers

Rules that Apply to the Plan

What the Plan Does Not Cover

Understanding Your Aetna Dental Plan

It is important that you have the information and useful resources to help you get the most out of your **Aetna** dental plan. This Booklet explains:

- Definitions you need to know;
- How to access care, including procedures you need to follow;
- What services and supplies are covered and what limits may apply;
- What services and supplies are not covered by the plan;
- How you share the cost of your covered services and supplies; and
- Other important information such as eligibility, **complaints** and **appeals**, termination, continuation of coverage and general administration of the plan.

Important Notes:

Unless otherwise indicated, "you" refers to you and your covered dependents.

This Booklet applies to coverage only and does not restrict your ability to receive covered expenses that are not or might not be **covered expenses** under this dental plan.

Store this Booklet in a safe place for future reference.

Getting Started: Common Terms

Many terms throughout this Booklet are defined in the *Glossary* Section at the back of this document. Defined terms appear in bolded print. Understanding these terms will also help you understand how your plan works and provide you with useful information regarding your coverage.

About the PPO Dental Plan

The plan is a Preferred **Provider** Organization (PPO) that covers a wide range of dental services and supplies. You can visit the **dental provider** of your choice when you need dental care.

You can choose a **dental provider** who is in the dental network. You may pay less out of your own pocket when you choose a **network provider**.

You have the freedom to choose a **dental provider** who is not in the dental network. You may pay more if you choose an **out-of network provider**.

The *Schedule of Benefits* shows you how the plan's level of coverage is different for **network services and supplies** and **out-of network services and supplies**.

The Choice is Yours

You have a choice each time you need dental care:

Using Network Providers

- You will receive the plan's higher level of coverage when your care is provided by a **network provider**.
- The plan begins to pay benefits after you satisfy a **deductible**.
- You share the cost of covered services and supplies by paying a portion of certain expenses (your **payment percentage**). **Network providers** have agreed to provide covered services and supplies at a **negotiated charge**. Your **payment percentage** is based on the **negotiated charge**. In no event will you have to pay any amounts above the **negotiated charge** for a covered service or supply. You have no further out-of-pocket expenses when the plan covers in network services at 100%.
- You will not have to submit dental claims for treatment received from **network providers**. Your **network provider** will take care of claim submission. You will be responsible for **deductibles, payment percentage and copayments**, if any.
- You will receive notification of what the plan has paid toward your **covered expenses**. It will indicate any amounts you owe towards your **deductible, copayment, payment percentage** or other **non-covered expenses** you have incurred. You may elect to receive this notification by e-mail, or through the mail. Call or e-mail Member Services if you have questions regarding your statement.

Availability of Providers

Aetna cannot guarantee the availability or continued participation of a particular **provider**. Either **Aetna** or any **network provider** may terminate the provider contract or limit the number of patients accepted in a practice.

Using Out-of-Network Providers

You can obtain dental care from **dental providers** who are not in the network. The plan covers **out-of-network services and supplies**, but your expenses will generally be higher.

You must satisfy a **deductible** before the plan begins to pay benefits.

You share the cost of covered services and supplies by paying a portion of certain expenses (your **payment percentage**).

If your **out-of-network provider** charges more than the **recognized charge**, you will be responsible for any expenses incurred above the **recognized charge**. The **recognized charge** is the maximum amount **Aetna** will pay for a covered expense from an **out-of-network provider**.

You must file a claim to receive reimbursement from the plan.

Important Reminder

Refer to the *Schedule of Benefits* for details about any **deductibles, copays, payment percentage** and maximums that apply.

Getting an Advance Claim Review

The purpose of the advance claim review is to determine, in advance, the benefits the plan will pay for proposed services. Knowing ahead of time which services are covered by the plan, and the benefit amount payable, helps you and your **dentist** make informed decisions about the care you are considering.

Important Note

The pre-treatment review process is not a guarantee of benefit payment, but rather an estimate of the amount or scope of benefits to be paid.

When to Get an Advance Claim Review

An advance claim review is recommended whenever a course of dental treatment is likely to cost more than \$350. Ask your **dentist** to write down a full description of the treatment you need, using either an **Aetna** claim form or an ADA approved claim form. Then, before actually treating you, your **dentist** should send the form to **Aetna**. **Aetna** may request supporting x-rays and other diagnostic records. Once all of the information has been gathered, **Aetna** will review the proposed treatment plan and provide you and your **dentist** with a statement outlining the benefits payable by the plan. You and your **dentist** can then decide how to proceed.

The advance claim review is voluntary. It is a service that provides you with information that you and your **dentist** can consider when deciding on a course of treatment. It is not necessary for emergency treatment or routine care such as cleaning teeth or check-ups.

In determining the amount of benefits payable, **Aetna** will take into account alternate procedures, services, or courses of treatment for the dental condition in question in order to accomplish the anticipated result. (See *Benefits When Alternate Procedures Are Available* for more information on alternate dental procedures.)

What is a Course of Dental Treatment?

A course of dental treatment is a planned program of one or more services or supplies. The services or supplies are provided by one or more **dentists** to treat a dental condition that was diagnosed by the attending **dentist** as a result of an oral examination. A course of treatment starts on the date your **dentist** first renders a service to correct or treat the diagnosed dental condition.

In Case of a Dental Emergency

The plan pays a benefit at the network level of coverage even if the services and supplies were not provided by a **network provider** up to the dental emergency maximum. The care provided must be a covered service or supply. You must submit a claim to **Aetna** describing the care given. Additional dental care to treat your **dental emergency** will be covered at the appropriate **coinsurance** level.

What The Plan Covers

PPO Dental Plan

Schedule of Benefits for the PPO Dental Plan

PPO Dental is merely a name of the benefits in this section. The plan does not pay a benefit for all dental care expenses you incur.

Important Reminder

Your dental services and supplies must meet the following rules to be covered by the plan:

- The services and supplies must be **medically necessary**.
- The services and supplies must be covered by the plan.
- You must be covered by the plan when you incur the expense.

Covered expenses include charges made by a **dentist** for the services and supplies that are listed in the dental care schedule.

The next sentence applies if:

- A charge is made for an unlisted service given for the dental care of a specific condition; and
- The list includes one of more services that, under standard practices, are separately suitable for the dental care of that condition.

In that case, the charge will be considered to have been made for a service in the list that **Aetna** determines would have produced a professionally acceptable result.

Dental Care Schedule

The dental care schedule is a list of dental expenses that are covered by the plan. There are several categories of **covered expenses**:

- Preventive
- Diagnostic

These covered services and supplies are grouped as Type A.

Coverage is also provided for a **dental emergency**. Services provided for a **dental emergency** will be covered at the **network** level of benefits even if services and supplies are not provided by a **network provider**. There is a maximum benefit payable. For additional information, please refer to *In Case of a Dental Emergency section*.

PPO Dental Expense Coverage Plan

The following additional dental expenses will be considered **covered expenses** for you and your covered dependent if you have medical coverage and have at least one of the following conditions:

- Pregnancy;
- Coronary artery disease/cardiovascular disease;
- Cerebrovascular disease; or
- Diabetes

Additional Covered Dental Expenses

- One additional prophylaxis (cleaning) per year.
- Scaling and root planing, (4 or more teeth); per quadrant;
- Scaling and root planing (limited to 1-3 teeth); per quadrant;
- Full mouth debridement;
- Periodontal maintenance (one additional treatment per year); and
- Localized delivery of antimicrobial agents. (Not covered for pregnancy)

Payment of Benefits

The additional prophylaxis, the benefit will be payable the same as other prophylaxis under the plan.

Important Reminder

The **deductible, payment percentage** and maximums that apply to each type of dental care are shown in the *Schedule of Benefits*.

You may receive services and supplies from **network** and **out-of-network providers**. Services and supplies given by a **network provider** are covered at the **network** level of benefits shown in the *Schedule of Benefits*. Services and supplies given by an **out-of-network provider** are covered at the out-of-network level of benefits shown in the *Schedule of Benefits*.

Refer to *About the PPO Dental Coverage* for more information about covered services and supplies.

Type A Expenses: Diagnostic and Preventive Care

Visits and X-Rays

Office visit during regular office hours, for oral examination

Routine comprehensive or recall examination (limited to 2 visits every year)

Problem-focused examination (limited to 2 visits every year)

Prophylaxis (cleaning) (limited to 2 treatments per year)

Adult

Child

Topical application of fluoride, (limited to one course of treatment per year and to children under age 16)

Sealants, per tooth (limited to one application every 3 years for permanent molars only, and to children under age 16)

Bitewing X-rays (limited to 1 set per year)

Complete X-ray series, including bitewings if necessary, or panoramic film (limited to 1 set every 3 years)

Vertical bitewing X-rays (limited to 1 set every 3 years)

Periapical x-rays (single films up to 13)

Intra-oral, occlusal view, maxillary or mandibular

Emergency palliative treatment, per visit

Space Maintainers Only when needed to preserve space resulting from premature loss of primary teeth. (Includes all adjustments within 6 months after installation.)

Fixed (unilateral or bilateral)

Removable (unilateral or bilateral)

Rules and Limits That Apply to the Dental Plan

Several rules apply to the dental plan. Following these rules will help you use the plan to your advantage by avoiding expenses that are not covered by the plan.

Alternate Treatment Rule (GR-9N-20-015-01)

Sometimes there are several ways to treat a dental problem, all of which provide acceptable results. When alternate services or supplies can be used, the plan's coverage will be limited to the cost of the least expensive service or supply that is:

- Customarily used nationwide for treatment, and
- Deemed by the dental profession to be appropriate for treatment of the condition in question. The service or supply must meet broadly accepted standards of dental practice, taking into account your current oral condition.

You should review the differences in the cost of alternate treatment with your **dental provider**. Of course, you and your **dental provider** can still choose the more costly treatment method. You are responsible for any charges in excess of what the plan will cover.

What The PPO Dental Plan Does Not Cover

Not every dental care service or supply is covered by the plan, even if prescribed, recommended, or approved by your **physician** or **dentist**. The plan covers only those services and supplies that are **medically necessary** and included in the *What the Plan Covers* section. Charges made for the following are not covered except to the extent listed under the *What the Plan Covers* section or by amendment attached to this Booklet. In addition, some services are specifically limited or excluded. This section describes expenses that are not covered or subject to special limitations.

These dental exclusions are in addition to the exclusions that apply to health coverage.

Any instruction for diet, plaque control and oral hygiene.

Cosmetic services and supplies including plastic surgery, reconstructive surgery, **cosmetic** surgery, personalization or characterization of dentures or other services and supplies which improve alter or enhance appearance, augmentation and vestibuloplasty, and other substances to protect, clean, whiten bleach or alter the appearance of teeth; whether or not for psychological or emotional reasons; except to the extent coverage is specifically provided in the *What the Plan Covers* section. Facings on molar crowns and pontics will always be considered **cosmetic**.

Crown, inlays and onlays, and veneers unless:

- It is treatment for decay or traumatic **injury** and teeth cannot be restored with a filling material; or
- The tooth is an abutment to a covered partial denture or fixed bridge.

Dental implants, braces, mouth guards, and other devices to protect, replace or reposition teeth and removal of implants.

Dental services and supplies that are covered in whole or in part:

- Under any other part of this plan; or
- Under any other plan of group benefits provided by the contractholder.

Dentures, crowns, inlays, onlays, bridges, or other appliances or services used for the purpose of splinting, to alter vertical dimension, to restore occlusion, or correcting attrition, abrasion, or erosion.

Except as covered in the *What the Plan Covers* section, treatment of any **jaw joint disorder** and treatments to alter bite or the alignment or operation of the jaw, including temporomandibular joint disorder (TMJ) treatment, orthognathic surgery, and treatment of malocclusion or devices to alter bite or alignment.

First installation of a denture or fixed bridge, and any inlay and crown that serves as an abutment to replace congenitally missing teeth or to replace teeth all of which were lost while the person was not covered.

General anesthesia and intravenous sedation, unless specifically covered and only when done in connection with another necessary covered service or supply.

Orthodontic treatment except as covered in the *What the Plan Covers* section.

Pontics, crowns, cast or processed restorations made with high noble metals (gold or titanium).

Prescribed drugs; pre-medication; or analgesia.

Replacement of a device or appliance that is lost, missing or stolen, and for the replacement of appliances that have been damaged due to abuse, misuse or neglect and for an extra set of dentures.

Services and supplies done where there is no evidence of pathology, dysfunction, or disease other than covered preventive services.

Services and supplies provided for your personal comfort or convenience, or the convenience of any other person, including a provider.

Services and supplies provided in connection with treatment or care that is not covered under the plan.

Space maintainers except when needed to preserve space resulting from the premature loss of deciduous teeth.

Surgical removal of impacted wisdom teeth only for orthodontic reasons.

Treatment by other than a **dentist**. However, the plan will cover some services provided by a licensed dental hygienist under the supervision and guidance of a **dentist**. These are:

- Scaling of teeth;
- Cleaning of teeth; and
- Topical application of fluoride.

Additional Items Not Covered By A Health Plan

Not every health service or supply is covered by the plan, even if prescribed, recommended, or approved by your **physician** or **dentist**. The plan covers only those services and supplies that are **medically necessary** and included in the *What the Plan Covers* section. Charges made for the following are not covered except to the extent listed under the *What The Plan Covers* section or by amendment attached to this Booklet.

Acupuncture, acupressure and acupuncture therapy, except as provided in the *What the Plan Covers* section.

Any charges in excess of the benefit, dollar, day, visit or supply limits stated in this Booklet.

Charges submitted for services by an unlicensed **hospital, physician** or other provider or not within the scope of the provider's license.

Charges submitted for services that are not rendered, or not rendered to a person not eligible for coverage under the plan.

Court ordered services, including those required as a condition of parole or release.

Examinations:

- Any dental examinations:
 - required by a third party, including examinations and treatments required to obtain or maintain employment, or which an employer is required to provide under a labor agreement;
 - required by any law of a government, securing insurance or school admissions, or professional or other licenses;
 - required to travel, attend a school, camp, or sporting event or participate in a sport or other recreational activity; and
 - any special medical reports not directly related to treatment except when provided as part of a covered service.

Experimental or investigational drugs, devices, treatments or procedures, except as described in the *What the Plan Covers* section.

Medicare: Payment for that portion of the charge for which Medicare or another party is the primary payer.

Miscellaneous charges for services or supplies including:

- Cancelled or missed appointment charges or charges to complete claim forms;
- Charges the recipient has no legal obligation to pay; or the charges would not be made if the recipient did not have coverage (to the extent exclusion is permitted by law) including:
 - Care in charitable institutions;
 - Care for conditions related to current or previous military service; or
 - Care while in the custody of a governmental authority.

Non-**medically necessary** services, including but not limited to, those treatments, services, **prescription drugs** and supplies which are not **medically necessary**, as determined by **Aetna**, for the diagnosis and treatment of **illness, injury**, restoration of physiological functions, or covered preventive services. This applies even if they are prescribed, recommended or approved by your **physician** or **dentist**.

Routine dental exams and other preventive services and supplies, except as specifically provided in the *What the Plan Covers* section.

Services rendered before the effective date or after the termination of coverage, unless coverage is continued under the *Continuation of Coverage* section of this Booklet.

Work related: Any **illness** or **injury** related to employment or self-employment including any **injuries** that arise out of (or in the course of) any work for pay or profit, unless no other source of coverage or reimbursement is available to you for the services or supplies. Sources of coverage or reimbursement may include your employer, workers' compensation, or an **occupational illness** or similar program under local, state or federal law. A source of coverage or reimbursement will be considered available to you even if you waived your right to payment from that source. If you are also covered under a workers' compensation law or similar law, and submit proof that you are not covered for a particular **illness** or **injury** under such law, that **illness** or **injury** will be considered "non-occupational" regardless of cause.

When Coverage Ends

Coverage under your plan can end for a variety of reasons. In this section, you will find details on how and why coverage ends, and how you may still be able to continue coverage.

When Coverage Ends for Retirees

Your coverage under the plan will end if:

- The plan is discontinued;
- You voluntarily stop your coverage;
- The group contract ends;
- You are no longer eligible for coverage;
- You do not make any required contributions;
- You become covered under another plan offered by your employer;
- You have exhausted your overall maximum lifetime benefit under your medical plan, if your plan contains such a maximum benefit.

It is your employer's responsibility to let **Aetna** know when your coverage ends. The limits above may be extended only if **Aetna** and your employer agree, in writing, to extend them.

When Coverage Ends for Dependents

Coverage for your dependents will end if:

- You are no longer eligible for dependents' coverage;
- You do not make the required contribution toward the cost of dependents' coverage;
- Your own coverage ends for any of the reasons listed under *When Coverage Ends* for Employees (other than exhaustion of your overall maximum lifetime benefit, if included);
- Your dependent is no longer eligible for coverage. In this case, coverage ends at the end of the calendar month when your dependent no longer meets the plan's definition of a dependent; or
- Your dependent becomes eligible for comparable benefits under this or any other group plan offered by your employer.

Coverage for dependents may continue for a period after your death. Coverage for handicapped dependents may

continue after your dependent reaches any limiting age. See *Continuation of Coverage* for more information.

Continuing Health Care Benefits

Continuing Coverage for Dependent Students on Medical Leave of Absence

If your dependent child who is eligible for coverage and enrolled in this plan by reason of his or her status as a full-time student at a postsecondary educational institution ceases to be eligible due to:

- a medically necessary leave of absence from school; or
- a change in his or her status as a full-time student,

resulting from a serious **illness** or **injury**, such child's coverage under this plan may continue.

Coverage under this continuation provision will end when the first of the following occurs:

- The end of the 12 month period following the first day of your dependent child's leave of absence from school, or a change in his or her status as a full-time student;
- Your dependent child's coverage would otherwise end under the terms of this plan;
- Dependent coverage is discontinued under this plan; or
- You fail to make any required contribution toward the cost of this coverage.

To be eligible for this continuation, the dependent child must have been enrolled in this plan and attending school on a full-time basis immediately before the first day of the leave of absence.

To continue your dependent child's coverage under this provision you should notify your employer as soon as possible after your child's leave of absence begins or the change in his or her status as a full-time student. **Aetna** may require a written certification from the treating **physician** which states that the child is suffering from a serious illness or injury and that the resulting leave of absence (or change in full-time student status) is medically necessary.

Important Note

If at the end of this 12 month continuation period, your dependent child's leave of absence from school (or change in full-time student status) continues, such child may qualify for a further continuation of coverage under the Handicapped Dependent Children provision of this plan. Please see the section, *Handicapped Dependent Children*, for more information.

Handicapped Dependent Children

Health Expense Coverage for your fully handicapped dependent child may be continued past the maximum age for a dependent child. However, such coverage may not be continued if the child has been issued an individual medical conversion policy.

Your child is fully handicapped if:

- he or she is not able to earn his or her own living because of mental retardation or a physical handicap which started prior to the date he or she reaches the maximum age for dependent children under your plan; and
- he or she depends chiefly on you for support and maintenance.

Proof that your child is fully handicapped must be submitted to **Aetna** no later than 31 days after the date your child reaches the maximum age under your plan.

Coverage will cease on the first to occur of:

- Cessation of the handicap.
- Failure to give proof that the handicap continues.

- Failure to have any required exam.
- Termination of Dependent Coverage as to your child for any reason other than reaching the maximum age under your plan.

Aetna will have the right to require proof of the continuation of the handicap. **Aetna** also has the right to examine your child as often as needed while the handicap continues at its own expense. An exam will not be required more often than once each year after 2 years from the date your child reached the maximum age under your plan.

Coordination of Benefits - What Happens When There is More Than One Health Plan

Other Plans Not Including Medicare

Other Plans Not Including Medicare

Some persons have health coverage in addition to coverage under this Plan. Under these circumstances, it is not intended that a plan provide duplicate benefits. For this reason, many plans, including this Plan, have a "coordination of benefits" provision.

Under the coordination of benefits provision of this Plan, the amount normally reimbursed under this Plan is reduced to take into account payments made by "other plans".

When this and another health expenses coverage plan applies, the order in which the various plans will pay benefits must be figured. This will be done as follows using the first rule that applies:

1. A plan with no rules for coordination with other benefits will be deemed to pay its benefits before a plan which contains such rules.
2. A plan which covers a person other than as a dependent will be deemed to pay its benefits before a plan which covers the person as a dependent; except that if the person is also a Medicare beneficiary and as a result of the Social Security Act of 1965, as amended, Medicare is:
 - secondary to the plan covering the person as a dependent; and
 - primary to the plan covering the person as other than a dependent;

The benefits of a plan which covers the person as a dependent will be determined before the benefits of a plan which:

- covers the person as other than a dependent; and
 - is secondary to Medicare.
3. Except in the case of a dependent child whose parents are divorced or separated; the plan which covers the person as a dependent of a person whose birthday comes first in a calendar year will be primary to the plan which covers the person as a dependent of a person whose birthday comes later in that calendar year. If both parents have the same birthday, the benefits of a plan which covered one parent longer are determined before those of a plan which covered the other parent for a shorter period of time.

If the other plan does not have the rule described in this provision (3) but instead has a rule based on the gender of the parent and if, as a result, the plans do not agree on the order of benefits, the rule in the other plan will determine the order of benefits.

4. In the case of a dependent child whose parents are divorced or separated:
 - a. If there is a court decree which states that the parents shall share joint custody of a dependent child, without stating that one of the parents is responsible for the health care expenses of the child, the order of benefit determination rules specified in (3) above will apply.
 - b. If there is a court decree which makes one parent financially responsible for the medical, dental or other health care expenses of such child, the benefits of a plan which covers the child as a dependent of such parent will be determined before the benefits of any other plan which covers the child as a dependent child.
 - c. If there is not such a court decree:

If the parent with custody of the child has not remarried, the benefits of a plan which covers the child as a dependent of the parent with custody of the child will be determined before the benefits of a plan which covers the child as a dependent of the parent without custody.

If the parent with custody of the child has remarried, the benefits of a plan which covers the child as a dependent of the parent with custody shall be determined before the benefits of a plan which covers that child as a dependent of the stepparent. The benefits of a plan which covers that child as a dependent of the stepparent will be determined before the benefits of a plan which covers that child as a dependent of the parent without custody.

5. If 1, 2, 3 and 4 above do not establish an order of payment, the plan under which the person has been covered for the longest will be deemed to pay its benefits first; except that:

The benefits of a plan which covers the person on whose expenses claim is based as a:

- laid-off or retired employee; or
- the dependent of such person;

Shall be determined after the benefits of any other plan which covers such person as:

- an employee who is not laid-off or retired; or
- a dependent of such person.

If the other plan does not have a provision:

- regarding laid-off or retired employees; and
- as a result, each plan determines its benefits after the other;

then the above paragraph will not apply.

The benefits of a plan which covers the person on whose expenses claim is based under a right of continuation pursuant to federal or state law shall be determined after the benefits of any other plan which covers the person other than under such right of continuation.

If the other plan does not have a provision:

- regarding right of continuation pursuant to federal or state law; and
- as a result, each plan determines its benefits after the other;

then the above paragraph will not apply.

The general rule is that the benefits otherwise payable under this Plan for all expenses incurred in a calendar year will be reduced by all "other plan" benefits payable for those expenses. When the coordination of benefits rules of this Plan and an "other plan" both agree that this Plan determines its benefits before such other plan, the benefits of the other plan will be ignored in applying the general rule above to the claim involved.

In order to administer this provision, Aetna can release or obtain data. Aetna can also make or recover payments.

When this provision operates to reduce the total amount of benefits otherwise payable as to a person covered under this Plan during a calendar year, each benefit that would be payable in the absence of this provision will be reduced proportionately. Such reduced amount will be charged against any applicable benefit limit of this Plan.

Other Plan

This means any other plan of health expense coverage under:

- Group insurance.
- Any other type of coverage for persons in a group. This includes plans that are insured and those that are not.
- No-fault auto insurance required by law and provided on other than a group basis. Only the level of benefits required by the law will be counted.

When You Have Medicare Coverage

Which Plan Pays First

How Coordination with Medicare Works

What is Not Covered

This section explains how the benefits under **This Plan** interact with benefits available under **Medicare**.

Medicare, when used in this Booklet, means the health insurance provided by Title XVIII of the Social Security Act, as amended. It includes Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) or similar coverage that is an authorized alternative to Parts A and B of **Medicare**

You are eligible for **Medicare** if you are:

- Covered under it by reason of age, disability, or
- End Stage Renal Disease
- Not covered under it because you:
 1. Refused it;
 2. Dropped it; or
 3. Failed to make a proper request for it.

If you are eligible for **Medicare**, the plan coordinates the benefits it pays with the benefits that **Medicare** pays. Sometimes, the **plan** is the primary payor, which means that the **plan** pays benefits before **Medicare** pays benefits. Under other circumstances, the **plan** is the secondary payor, and pays benefits after **Medicare**.

Which Plan Pays First

The plan is the primary payor when your coverage for the **plan's** benefits is based on current employment with your employer. The **plan** will act as the primary payor for the **Medicare** beneficiary who is eligible for **Medicare**:

- Solely due to age if the **plan** is subject to the Social Security Act requirements for **Medicare** with respect to working aged (i.e., generally a plan of an employer with 20 or more employees);
- Due to diagnosis of end stage renal disease, but only during the first 30 months of such eligibility for **Medicare** benefits. This provision does not apply if, at the start of eligibility, you were already eligible for **Medicare** benefits, and the **plan's** benefits were payable on a secondary basis;
- Solely due to any disability other than end stage renal disease; but only if the **plan** meets the definition of a large group health plan as outlined in the Internal Revenue Code (i.e., generally a plan of an employer with 100 or more employees).

The plan is the secondary payor in all other circumstances.

How Coordination With Medicare Works

When the Plan is Primary

The **plan** pays benefits first when it is the primary payor. You may then submit your claim to **Medicare** for consideration.

When Medicare is Primary

Your health care expense must be considered for payment by **Medicare** first. You may then submit the expense to **Aetna** for consideration.

Aetna will calculate the benefits the **plan** would pay in the absence of **Medicare**:

The amount will be reduced so that when combined with the amount paid by **Medicare**, the total benefits paid or provided by all plans for the claim do not exceed 100 percent of the total **allowable expense**.

This review is done on a claim-by-claim basis.

Charges used to satisfy your Part B deductible under **Medicare** will be applied under the **plan** in the order received by **Aetna**. **Aetna** will apply the largest charge first when two or more charges are received at the same time.

Aetna will apply any rule for coordinating health care benefits after determining the benefits payable.

Right to Receive and Release Required Information

Certain facts about health care coverage and services are required to apply coordination of benefits (COB) rules to determine benefits under **This Plan** and other **plans**. **Aetna** has the right to obtain or release any information, and make or recover any payments it considers necessary, in order to administer this provision.

General Provisions

Type of Coverage

Coverage under the plan is **non-occupational**. Only **non-occupational** accidental **injuries** and **non-occupational illnesses** are covered. The plan covers charges made for services and supplies only while the person is covered under the plan.

Physical Examinations

Aetna will have the right and opportunity to examine and evaluate any person who is the basis of any claim at all reasonable times while a claim is pending or under review. This will be done at no cost to you.

Legal Action

No legal action can be brought to recover payment under any benefit after 3 years from the deadline for filing claims.

Aetna will not try to reduce or deny a benefit payment on the grounds that a condition existed before your coverage went into effect, if the loss occurs more than 2 years from the date coverage commenced. This will not apply to conditions excluded from coverage on the date of the loss.

Confidentiality

Information contained in your medical records and information received from any provider incident to the provider patient relationship shall be kept confidential in accordance with applicable law. Information may be used or disclosed by **Aetna** when necessary for your care or treatment, the operation of the plan and administration of this Booklet, or other activities, as permitted by applicable law. You can obtain a copy of **Aetna's** Notice of Information Practices by calling **Aetna's** toll-free Member Service telephone.

Additional Provisions

The following additional provisions apply to your coverage:

- This Booklet applies to coverage only, and does not restrict your ability to receive health care services that are not, or might not be, covered.
- You cannot receive multiple coverage under the plan because you are connected with more than one employer.
- In the event of a misstatement of any fact affecting your coverage under the plan, the true facts will be used to determine the coverage in force.
- This document describes the main features of the plan. Additional provisions are described elsewhere in the *group contract*. If you have any questions about the terms of the plan or about the proper payment of benefits, contact your employer or **Aetna**.
- Your employer hopes to continue the plan indefinitely but, as with all group plans, the plan may be changed or discontinued with respect to your coverage.

Assignments

Coverage may be assigned only with the written consent of **Aetna**. To the extent allowed by law, **Aetna** will not accept an assignment to an **out-of-network provider**, including but not limited to, an assignment of:

- The benefits due under this contract;
- The right to receive payments due under this contract; or
- Any claim you make for damages resulting from a breach or alleged breach, of the terms of this contract.

Misstatements

If any fact as to the Contractholder or you is found to have been misstated, a fair change in fees may be made. If the misstatement affects the existence or amount of coverage, the true facts will be used in determining whether coverage is or remains in force and its amount.

All statements made by the Contractholder or you shall be deemed representations and not warranties. No written statement made by you shall be used by **Aetna** in a contest unless a copy of the statement is or has been furnished to you or your beneficiary, or the person making the claim.

Aetna's failure to implement or insist upon compliance with any provision of this contract at any given time or times, shall not constitute a waiver of **Aetna's** right to implement or insist upon compliance with that provision at any other time or times. This includes, but is not limited to, the payment of fees. This applies whether or not the circumstances are the same.

Incontestability

As to **Accident** and Health Benefits:

Except as to a fraudulent misstatement, or issues concerning Premiums due:

- No statement made by the Contractholder or you or your dependent shall be the basis for voiding coverage or denying coverage or be used in defense of a claim unless it is in writing after it has been in force for 2 years from its effective date.
- No statement made by the Contractholder shall be the basis for voiding this Contract after it has been in force for 2 years from its effective date.
- No statement made by you, an eligible employee or your dependent shall be used in defense of a claim for loss incurred or starting after coverage as to which claim is made has been in effect for 2 years.

Recovery of Overpayments

Health Coverage

If a benefit payment is made by **Aetna**, to or on your behalf, which exceeds the benefit amount that you are entitled to receive, **Aetna** has the right:

- To require the return of the overpayment; or
- To reduce by the amount of the overpayment, any future benefit payment made to or on behalf of that person or another person in his or her family.

Such right does not affect any other right of recovery **Aetna** may have with respect to such overpayment.

Reporting of Claims

A claim must be submitted to **Aetna** in writing. It must give proof of the nature and extent of the loss. Your employer has claim forms.

All claims should be reported promptly. The deadline for filing a claim is 90 days after the date of the loss.

If, through no fault of your own, you are not able to meet the deadline for filing claim, your claim will still be accepted if you file as soon as possible. Unless you are legally incapacitated, late claims for health benefits will not be covered if they are filed more than 2 years after the deadline.

Payment of Benefits

Benefits will be paid as soon as the necessary proof to support the claim is received. Written proof must be provided for all benefits.

All covered health benefits are payable to you. However, **Aetna** has the right to pay any health benefits to the service provider. This will be done unless you have told **Aetna** otherwise by the time you file the claim.

Aetna will notify you in writing, at the time it receives a claim, when an assignment of benefits to a health care provider or facility will not be accepted.

The Plan may pay up to \$1,000 of any other benefit to any of your relatives whom it believes fairly entitled to it. This can be done if the benefit is payable to you and you are a minor or not able to give a valid release. It can also be done if a benefit is payable to your estate.

Records of Expenses

Keep complete records of the expenses of each person. They will be required when a claim is made.

Very important are:

- Names of **dentists** who furnish services.
- Dates expenses are incurred.
- Copies of all bills and receipts.

Contacting Aetna

If you have questions, comments or concerns about your benefits or coverage, or if you are required to submit information to **Aetna**, you may contact **Aetna's** Home Office at:

Aetna Life Insurance Company
151 Farmington Avenue
Hartford, CT 06156

You may also use **Aetna's** toll free Member Services phone number on your ID card or visit **Aetna's** web site at www.aetna.com.

Effect of Benefits Under Other Plans

Effect of An Health Maintenance Organization Plan (HMO Plan) On Coverage

If you are in an eligible class and have chosen dental coverage under an HMO Plan offered by your employer, you will be excluded from dental expense coverage on the date of your coverage under such HMO Plan.

If you are in an eligible class and are covered under an HMO Plan providing dental coverage, you can choose to change to coverage for yourself and your covered dependents under this plan. If you:

- Live in an HMO Plan enrollment area and choose to change dental coverage during an open enrollment period, coverage will take effect on the group contract anniversary date after the open enrollment period. There will be no rules for waiting periods or preexisting conditions.
- Live in an HMO Plan enrollment area and choose to change dental coverage when there is not an open enrollment period, coverage will take effect only if and when **Aetna** gives its written consent.
- Move from an HMO Plan enrollment area or if the HMO discontinues and you choose to change dental coverage within 31 days of the move or the discontinuance, coverage will take effect on the date you elect such coverage. There will be no restrictions for waiting periods or preexisting conditions. If you choose to change coverage after 31 days, coverage will take effect only if and when **Aetna** gives its written consent.

No benefits will be paid for any charges for services rendered or supplies furnished under an HMO Plan.

Effect of Prior Coverage - Transferred Business

If your coverage under any part of this plan replaces any prior coverage for you, the rules below apply to that part.

"Prior coverage" is any plan of group coverage that has been replaced by coverage under part or all of this plan; it must have been sponsored by your employer (e.g., transferred business). The replacement can be complete or in part for the eligible class to which you belong. Any such plan is prior coverage if provided by another group contract or any benefit section of this plan.

Coverage under any other section of this plan will be in exchange for all privileges and benefits provided under any like prior coverage. Any benefits provided under such prior coverage may reduce benefits payable under this plan.

If:

- A dependent child's eligibility under the prior coverage is a result of his or her status as a full-time student at a postsecondary educational institution; and
- Such dependent child is in a period of coverage continuation pursuant to a medically necessary leave of absence from school (or change in full-time student status); and
- This plan provides coverage for eligible dependents;

coverage under this plan will continue uninterrupted as to such dependent child for the remainder of the continuation period as provided under the section, *Continuing Coverage for Dependent Students on Medical Leave of Absence*.

Discount Programs

Discount Arrangements

From time to time, we may offer, provide, or arrange for discount arrangements or special rates from certain service providers such as pharmacies, optometrists, **dentists**, alternative medicine, wellness and health living providers to you under this plan. Some of these arrangements may be made available through third parties who may make payments to **Aetna** in exchange for making these services available.

The third party service providers are independent contractors and are solely responsible to you for the provision of any such goods and/or services. We reserve the right to modify or discontinue such arrangements at any time. These discount arrangements are not insurance. There are no benefits payable to you nor do we compensate providers for services they may render through discount arrangements.

Incentives

In order to encourage you to access certain medical services when deemed appropriate by you in consultation with your **physician** or other service providers, we may, from time to time, offer to waive or reduce a member's **copayment, payment percentage**, and/or a **deductible** otherwise required under the plan or offer coupons or other financial incentives. We have the right to determine the amount and duration of any waiver, reduction, coupon, or financial incentive and to limit the covered persons to whom these arrangements are available.

Glossary

In this section, you will find definitions for the words and phrases that appear in **bold type** throughout the text of this Booklet.

A

Accident

This means a sudden; unexpected; and unforeseen; identifiable **occurrence** or event producing, at the time, objective symptoms of a bodily **injury**. The **accident** must occur while the person is covered under this Contract. The **occurrence** or event must be definite as to time and place. It must not be due to, or contributed by, an **illness** or disease of any kind.

Aetna

Aetna Life Insurance Company

C

Copay or Copayment

The specific dollar amount or percentage required to be paid by you or on your behalf. The plan includes various **copayments**, and these **copayment** amounts or percentages are specified in the *Schedule of Benefits*.

Cosmetic

Services or supplies that alter, improve or enhance appearance.

Covered Expenses

Medical, dental, vision or hearing services and supplies shown as covered under this Booklet.

D

Deductible

The part of your **covered expenses** you pay before the plan starts to pay benefits. Additional information regarding **deductibles** and **deductible** amounts can be found in the *Schedule of Benefits*.

Deductible Carryover

This allows you to apply any **covered expense** incurred during the last 3 months of a calendar year that is applied toward this year's **deductible** to also apply toward the following year's **deductible**.

Dental Provider

This is:

- Any **dentist**;
- Group;
- Organization;
- Dental facility; or
- Other institution or person.

legally qualified to furnish dental services or supplies.

Dental Emergency

Any dental condition that:

- Occurs unexpectedly;
- Requires immediate diagnosis and treatment in order to stabilize the condition; and
- Is characterized by symptoms such as severe pain and bleeding.

Dentist

A legally qualified **dentist**, or a **physician** licensed to do the dental work he or she performs.

Directory

A listing of all **network providers** serving the class of employees to which you belong. The contractholder will give you a copy of this **directory**. **Network provider** information is also available through **Aetna's** online provider **directory**, DocFind®.

E

Experimental or Investigational

A drug, a device, a procedure, or treatment will be determined to be **experimental or investigational** if:

- There are insufficient outcomes data available from controlled clinical trials published in the peer-reviewed literature to substantiate its safety and effectiveness for the **illness** or **injury** involved; or
- Approval required by the FDA has not been granted for marketing; or
- A recognized national medical or dental society or regulatory agency has determined, in writing, that it is **experimental or investigational**, or for research purposes; or
- It is a type of drug, device or treatment that is the subject of a Phase I or Phase II clinical trial or the experimental or research arm of a Phase III clinical trial, using the definition of “phases” indicated in regulations and other official actions and publications of the FDA and Department of Health and Human Services; or
- The written protocol or protocols used by the treating facility, or the protocol or protocols of any other facility studying substantially the same drug, device, procedure, or treatment, or the written informed consent used by the treating facility or by another facility studying the same drug, device, procedure, or treatment states that it is **experimental or investigational**, or for research purposes.

H

Hospital

An institution that:

- Is primarily engaged in providing, on its premises, inpatient medical, surgical and diagnostic services;
- Is supervised by a staff of **physicians**;
- Provides twenty-four (24) hour-a-day **R.N.** service,
- Charges patients for its services;
- Is operating in accordance with the laws of the jurisdiction in which it is located; and
- Does not meet all of the requirements above, but does meet the requirements of the jurisdiction in which it operates for licensing as a **hospital** and is accredited as a **hospital** by the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations.

In no event does **hospital** include a convalescent nursing home or any institution or part of one which is used principally as a convalescent facility, rest facility, nursing facility, facility for the aged, extended care facility, intermediate care facility, **skilled nursing facility**, hospice, rehabilitative **hospital** or facility primarily for rehabilitative or custodial services.

I

Illness

A pathological condition of the body that presents a group of clinical signs and symptoms and laboratory findings peculiar to it and that sets the condition apart as an abnormal entity differing from other normal or pathological body states.

Injury

An accidental bodily **injury** that is the sole and direct result of:

- An unexpected or reasonably unforeseen occurrence or event; or
- The reasonable unforeseeable consequences of a voluntary act by the person.
- An act or event must be definite as to time and place.

J

Jaw Joint Disorder

This is:

- A Temporomandibular Joint (TMJ) dysfunction or any similar disorder of the jaw joint; or
- A Myofascial Pain Dysfunction (MPD); or
- Any similar disorder in the relationship between the jaw joint and the related muscles and nerves.

L

Lifetime Maximum

This is the most the plan will pay for **covered expenses** incurred by any one covered person during their lifetime.

M

Medically Necessary or Medical Necessity

Health care or dental services, and supplies or **prescription drugs** that a **physician**, other health care provider or **dental provider**, exercising prudent clinical judgment, would provide to a patient for the purpose of preventing, evaluating, diagnosing or treating an **illness, injury**, disease or its symptoms, and that provision of the service, supply or **prescription drug** is:

- a) In accordance with generally accepted standards of medical or dental practice;
- b) Clinically appropriate, in terms of type, frequency, extent, site and duration, and considered effective for the patient's **illness, injury** or disease; and
- c) Not primarily for the convenience of the patient, **physician**, other health care or **dental provider**; and
- d) Not more costly than an alternative service or sequence of services at least as likely to produce equivalent therapeutic or diagnostic results as to the diagnosis or treatment of that patient's **illness, injury**, or disease.

For these purposes “generally accepted standards of medical or dental practice” means standards that are based on credible scientific evidence published in peer-reviewed literature generally recognized by the relevant medical or dental community, or otherwise consistent with **physician** or dental specialty society recommendations and the views of **physicians** or **dentists** practicing in relevant clinical areas and any other relevant factors.

N

Negotiated Charge

The maximum charge a **network provider** has agreed to make as to any service or supply for the purpose of the benefits under this plan.

Network Provider

A **dental provider** who has contracted to furnish services or supplies for a **negotiated charge**; but only if the provider is, with **Aetna's** consent, included in the **directory** as a **network provider** for:

- The service or supply involved; and
- The class of employees to which you belong.

Network Service(s) or Supply(ies)

Health care service or supply that is:

- Furnished by a **network provider**

Non-Occupational Illness

A **non-occupational illness** is an **illness** that does not:

- Arise out of (or in the course of) any work for pay or profit; or
- Result in any way from an **illness** that does.

An **illness** will be deemed to be non-occupational regardless of cause if proof is furnished that the person:

- Is covered under any type of workers' compensation law; and
- Is not covered for that **illness** under such law.

Non-Occupational Injury

A **non-occupational injury** is an accidental bodily **injury** that does not:

- Arise out of (or in the course of) any work for pay or profit; or
- Result in any way from an **injury** which does.

O

Occupational Injury or Occupational Illness

An **injury** or **illness** that:

- Arises out of (or in the course of) any activity in connection with employment or self-employment whether or not on a full time basis; or
- Results in any way from an **injury** or **illness** that does.

Occurrence

This means a period of disease or **injury**. An **occurrence** ends when 60 consecutive days have passed during which the covered person:

- Receives no medical treatment; services; or supplies; for a disease or **injury**; and
- Neither takes any medication, nor has any medication prescribed, for a disease or **injury**.

Orthodontic Treatment

This is any:

- Medical service or supply; or
- Dental service or supply;

furnished to prevent or to diagnose or to correct a misalignment:

- Of the teeth; or
- Of the bite; or
- Of the jaws or jaw joint relationship;

whether or not for the purpose of relieving pain.

Out-of-Network Service(s) and Supply(ies)

Health care service or supply that is:

- Furnished by an **out-of network provider**.

Out-of-Network Provider

A **dental provider** who has not contracted with **Aetna** to furnish services or supplies at a **negotiated charge**.

P

Payment Percentage

Payment percentage is both the percentage of **covered expenses** that the plan pays, and the percentage of **covered expenses** that you pay. The percentage that the plan pays is referred to as the “plan **payment percentage**,” and varies by the type of expense. Please refer to the *Schedule of Benefits* for specific information on **payment percentage** amounts.

Physician

A duly licensed member of a medical profession who:

- Has an M.D. or D.O. degree;
- Is properly licensed or certified to provide medical care under the laws of the jurisdiction where the individual practices; and
- Provides medical services which are within the scope of his or her license or certificate.

This also includes a health professional who:

- Is properly licensed or certified to provide medical care under the laws of the jurisdiction where he or she practices;
- Provides medical services which are within the scope of his or her license or certificate;
- Under applicable insurance law is considered a "physician" for purposes of this coverage;
- Has the medical training and clinical expertise suitable to treat your condition;
- Specializes in psychiatry, if your **illness** or **injury** is caused, to any extent, by alcohol abuse, substance abuse or a mental disorder; and
- A physician is not you or related to you.

Prescriber

Any **physician** or **dentist**, acting within the scope of his or her license, who has the legal authority to write an order for a **prescription drug**.

Prescription

An order for the dispensing of a **prescription drug** by a **prescriber**. If it is an oral order, it must be promptly put in writing by the pharmacy.

Prescription Drug

A drug, biological, or compounded **prescription** which, by State and Federal Law, may be dispensed only by **prescription** and which is required to be labeled "Caution: Federal Law prohibits dispensing without prescription." This includes:

- An injectable drug prescribed to be self-administered or administered by any other person except one who is acting within his or her capacity as a paid healthcare professional. Covered injectable drugs include injectable insulin.

R

Recognized Charge

Only that part of a charge which is less than or equal to the **recognized charge** is a **covered benefit**. The **recognized charge** for a service or supply is the lowest of:

- The provider's usual charge for furnishing it;
- The charge **Aetna** determines to be appropriate, based on factors such as the cost of providing the same or a similar service or supply and the manner in which charges for the service or supply are made, billed or coded; or the provider charge data from the Ingenix Incorporated Prevailing HealthCare Charges System (PHCS) at the 80th percentile of PHCS data. This PHCS data is generally updated at least every six months.
- The charge **Aetna** determines to be the usual charge level made for it in the geographic area where it is furnished.

In determining the **recognized charge** for a service or supply that is:

- Unusual; or
- Not often provided in the geographic area; or
- Provided by only a small number of **providers** in the geographic area;

Aetna may take into account factors, such as:

- The complexity;
- The degree of skill needed;
- The type of specialty of the **provider**;
- The range of services or supplies provided by a facility; and
- The **recognized charge** in other geographic areas.

In some circumstances, **Aetna** may have an agreement with a provider (either directly, or indirectly through a third party) which sets the rate that **Aetna** will pay for a service or supply. In these instances, in spite of the methodology described above, the **recognized charge** is the rate established in such agreement.

As used above, the term “geographic area” means a Prevailing HealthCare Charges System (PHCS) expense area grouping. Expense areas are defined by the first three digits of the U.S. Postal Service zip codes. If the volume of charges in a single three digit zip code is sufficient to produce a statistically valid sample, an expense area is made up of a single three digit zip code. If the volume of charges is not sufficient to produce a statistically valid sample, two or more three digit zip codes are grouped to produce a statistically valid sample. When it is necessary to group three digit zip codes, PHCS never crosses state lines. This data is produced semi-annually. Current procedure codes that have been developed by the American Medical Association, the American Dental Association, and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services are utilized.

R.N.

A registered nurse.

S

Skilled Nursing Facility

An institution that meets all of the following requirements:

- It is licensed to provide, and does provide, the following on an inpatient basis for persons convalescing from **illness** or **injury**:
 - Professional nursing care by an **R.N.**, or by a L.P.N. directed by a full-time **R.N.**; and
 - Physical restoration services to help patients to meet a goal of self-care in daily living activities.
- Provides 24 hour a day nursing care by licensed nurses directed by a full-time **R.N.**
- Is supervised full-time by a **physician** or an **R.N.**
- Keeps a complete medical record on each patient.
- Has a utilization review plan.
- Is not mainly a place for rest, for the aged, for drug addicts, for alcoholics, for mental retardates, for custodial or educational care, or for care of **mental disorders**.
- Charges patients for its services.
- An institution or a distinct part of an institution that meets all of the following requirements:
 - It is licensed or approved under state or local law.
 - Is primarily engaged in providing skilled nursing care and related services for residents who require medical or nursing care, or rehabilitation services for the rehabilitation of injured, disabled, or sick persons.
- Qualifies as a **skilled nursing facility** under Medicare or as an institution accredited by:
 - The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations;
 - The Bureau of **Hospitals** of the American Osteopathic Association; or
 - The Commission on the Accreditation of Rehabilitative Facilities

Skilled nursing facilities also include rehabilitation **hospitals** (all levels of care, e.g. acute) and portions of a **hospital** designated for skilled or rehabilitation services.

Skilled nursing facility does not include:

- Institutions which provide only:
 - Minimal care;
 - Custodial care services;
 - Ambulatory; or
 - Part-time care services.
- Institutions which primarily provide for the care and treatment of alcoholism, substance abuse or mental disorders.

Specialist

A **physician** who practices in any generally accepted medical or surgical sub-specialty.

Specialist Dentist

Any **dentist** who, by virtue of advanced training is board eligible or certified by a Specialty Board as being qualified to practice in a special field of dentistry.

Specialty Care

Health care services or supplies that require the services of a **specialist**.